

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EA/IMS;JMDION:LGR

APPROVED BY EA - ARTHUR W. HUMMEL, JR.

EA/IMS - MR. INGRAHAM

S/S -JPMOFFAT

S- LSEAGLEBURGER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 262150

TOSEC 570

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ID

SUBJECT: CALL BY AMBASSADOR TO INDONESIA

1. FOLLOWING IS BRIEFING MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY'S
MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR NEWSOM, JAKARTA.

2. QUOTE: NEWSOM: 5:00 P.M., MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

AMBASSADOR NEWSOM HAS RETURNED FROM JAKARTA TO CHAIR THE
SELECTION BOARD FOR CLASS ONE OFFICERS AND IS USING THE
OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS WITH OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON CURRENT
ISSUES IN OUR RELATIONS WITH INDONESIA. THE AMBASSADOR
IS CONCERNED WITH THE NEED TO AVOID ABRUPT CHANGE IN OUR
ECONOMIC AND MILITARY AID PROGRAMS FOR INDONESIA AND HOPES
TO SEE A CAREFULLY COORDINATED TRANSITION FROM CONCESSIONAL
ASSISTANCE TO HARDER TERMS AND OTHER FORMS OF COOPERATION.

ALTHOUGH INDONESIA IS A MEMBER OF OPEC AND HAS REALIZED
GAINS IN ITS FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES AS A RESULT OF HIGH
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OIL PRICES, IT IS A RELATIVELY SMALL PRODUCER WITH A

LARGE (130 MILLION) AND IMPOVERISHED (PER CAPITA GNP AROUND 130 DOLS) POPULATION. AS A CONSEQUENCE, INDONESIAN OIL EARNINGS CAN BE READILY APPLIED TO DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENT NEEDS FOR THE INDEFINITE FUTURE. IN RESPONSE TO THE NEW SITUATION, WE ARE ALTERING OUR AID STRATEGY WHILE REASSURING THE SUHARTO GOVERNMENT OF OUR CONTINUING

INTEREST IN INDONESIA'S DEVELOPMENT. THE AMBASSADOR WILL USE THE OCCASION OF THIS CALL TO GIVE YOU HIS ASSESSMENT OF OUR SUCCESS TO DATE IN MANAGING THE SHIFT TO A NEW BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP.

THE AMBASSADOR WILL ALSO BE INTERESTED IN YOUR ASSESSMENT OF THE CURRENT SITUATION IN VIETNAM AND PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE OF INDOCHINA IN THE CONTEXT OF INDONESIA'S CONTINUING MEMBERSHIP IN THE ICCS AND OVERALL CONCERN WITH REGIONAL STABILITY. INGERSOLL

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